

PROPOSAL 34 – 5 AAC 06.370. Registration and reregistration. Reduce the required waiting period when registering for a new district from 48 hours to 12 hours, as follows:

Modify the language in the regulation to reflect a waiting period of 12 hours instead of 48 hours.

Draft language. Substitute 12 hours in the place of 48 hours in all language referencing transfer waiting period for drift gillnet vessels and permit holders in 5 AAC 06.370.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? When transferring from one district to another during the Bristol Bay salmon fishery a vessel and its' permit holder(s) must wait 48 hours from the time of notification of transfer to begin fishing again. This regulation is a relic of management regimes long ago. The current regulation penalizes fishermen that simply want the opportunity to harvest available surpluses in a district other than where they are fishing at the present time. In the past processors have been adamant that they need district registration to be able to know where their fleet is and will be fishing in order that they can plan for tender placement and proper service. Leaving the notification requirement in place and reducing the waiting period to 12 hours provides the tracking that processors need while allowing the fishing fleet to operate under a management regime similar to that of every other salmon fishery in the state. The present regulation is difficult and costly to enforce and often results in significant abuse resulting in significant illegal fishing activities.

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